

Dan Calvert

To Whom it May Concern with the Department of Ecology,

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed FRE dam on the upper Chehalis River. I live in the region and regularly recreate on the Chehalis River – it is an amazing salmon fishing resource. I would like to express my opposition to construction of the proposed dam. Based on my review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, it's my belief the project would cause significant and unavoidable harm to the salmon and steelhead populations. This would include major impacts to Spring Chinook, Coho, Fall Chinook, and Steelhead populations. I've spent countless hours floating this stretch of river and know it to be one of the Basin's key spawning areas. This proposed dam would do irreparable harm to habitats that cannot be replaced.

I also have concerns about the scale and cost of the proposed structure, as well as the unresolved safety and geotechnical risks identified in the DEIS. With the cost estimate of \$1.3–\$2.3 billion, the dam would offer limited benefits while putting the river's ecological health—and the communities that rely on it—at long-term risk. This money would be better spent managing the floodplains to be more resilient to flooding.

Finally, more effective and less damaging flood reduction approaches already exist. These are identified in the Local Actions Non Dam Alternative. I urge Ecology to pursue these solutions instead of the proposed dam.

In summary – I am strongly opposed to the proposed dam construction and urge the Department of Ecology to consider alternative strategies for nature based solutions and floodplain resilience.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dan Calvert